

## **Waukesha County Nutrition Coalition Minutes**

### **July 28, 2015**

**Attendees:** Michelle Bertram, Mike Glasgow, Dawn Hendrix- ADRC; Pam Cesarec, Kostyn Tyksinski- Food Pantry of Waukesha County; Regina Estrada- Blessings in a Backpack; Mary Jo Michels- Waukesha County Public Health-WIC; Chris Beck- Healing Hearts of Waukesha Co Inc; Kristal De La Paz- Waukesha County Community Dental Clinic; Michelle Montez- Waukesha Co. Independent Living Program; Karen Cumblad-James Place; Chris Vitrano- Energy Services Inc; Lisa Roberts- Waukesha Co Child and Family Services; Jill Herz, Jeanne Weed, Diane Turner-UWEX.

#### **Welcome, Introductions and Advisory Committee Updates: Michelle Bertram, Regina Estrada, Jill Herz**

On August 25<sup>th</sup>, WCNC will be holding a Community Food Challenge in place of the regularly scheduled coalition meeting (in the same location as Coalition meetings-G55 in the Administration Building). The Community Food Challenge is similar to a poverty simulation; the focus will be on the challenge limited-income individuals and families face in obtaining nutritious food. During the simulation, participants will receive a packet that describes their role as a community member. Participants will then make their way around the "community," consisting of businesses and community agencies that can help them obtain food. UWEX Community Development Educator Steve Chimielewski and UWEX volunteers will be running the training. Lisa Roberts has agreed to give the kickoff speech. She will highlight the concept of trauma-informed care. Registration is going very well, with 19 people currently registered.

#### **Presenter: Madi Prange—Access Social Worker – Child Protective Services, Waukesha County HHS**

Intake and Support Services is the initial contact point for reporting child welfare issues. Social workers take phone calls from community members, assessing reports and determining if the situation warrants further investigation. To report, call 262-548-7212 from 8-4:30 Monday-Friday, or reach after-hours staff by calling 211. It is common for mandated reporters to be unsure about whether they should be reporting the situation; social workers can help talk through the situation with callers. The majority of calls are screened out or simply documented. Some situations may call for continued monitoring or court involvement. CPS services many families voluntarily. Outreach may include phone calls or home visits to provide support. Social workers often make referrals to parent support agencies such as juvenile justice or mental health. Also make birth to 3 referrals for issues such as emergency daycare crisis funding. Another available resource to families is Kinship Care, a program that provides support for family members who are caring for a child.

#### **Agency Updates:**

**ADRC, Lisa Roberts**—Trauma Informed Care meetings for service providers are at the Child and Family Center on the second Wednesday of every other month from 1-3. The next meeting is August 12<sup>th</sup>. Once a year, the group brings in a national presenter.

**UW-Extension, Jill Herz**—Continuing with nutrition education programs, which educate limited-income individuals and families through partnerships with agencies in Waukesha County. We are currently navigating some significant changes to our program guidelines and curriculum recommendations.

**Blessings in a Backpack, Regina Estrada**—Currently providing food to 700 children. Blessings in a Backpack is fully staffed by volunteers, funded through grants and fundraisers. September 26<sup>th</sup> is the date of the next fundraiser. Please let Regina know if you or someone you know is interested in volunteering. Volunteer opportunities are also available for bag filling and bag distribution.

**Food Pantry of Waukesha County, Kostyn Tyksinski**—Currently working with Kristin Krokowski from UW-Extension to try to bring EBT to the Waukesha Farmers Market. Exploring the possibility of the Food Pantry being the fiscal agent.

**Food Pantry of Waukesha County, Pam Cesarec**— Backpack sign up ends on Friday July 31<sup>st</sup>. Sign up is available at the Salvation Army, Hispanic Resource Center, Food Pantry, or call 211. The food pantry's garden is going well this year. The pantry has been setting up an outdoor farmers market when they have a lot of produce. Currently taking sign-ups for school backpacks filled with supplies. Distribution will be in August.

**Molina Healthcare, Abby Demler**—Currently working in Waukesha, Racine, and Walworth County. Mobile Food Pantry at La Casa was very successful on July 24. Molina worked on this project in collaboration with Feeding America.

**James Place, Karen Cumblad**— Have been busy with a large number of job seekers. Please consider attending the Open House on Monday August 24<sup>th</sup> from 4-8. James Place offers a Listeners' Club, which provides conversational practice for those who want to learn English. Listeners Club will start in October on Monday evenings.

**Hispanic Health Resource Center, Rachel Zuniga**— Hired a new bilingual administrative assistant, who will start in August. Will handle phone calls, walk-ins, and referrals. Hispanic Senior Garden is growing well. Obtained the lot through ProHealth—located in a lot off Madison and Fairmont. Held a one-time hiking program for Spanish and English-speaking children; hoping to do it again next summer. Call the center at 262-928-4181 to learn about programs.

**WIC, Mary Jo Michels**—On September 9<sup>th</sup>, WIC will be moving to a debit card system called eWIC. The majority of the state has rolled out the new system already. Milwaukee will be the final county. Walmart and Target stores are already trained and prepared to use eWIC. Currently in the process of training other stores. The new system will be more convenient, less cumbersome, and more discreet. Please refer families to WIC, especially pregnant women.

**Waukesha County Community Dental Clinic, Kristal De La Paz**—Offering a Healthy Tots program for uninsured children or children on BadgerCare. Serving adults for emergencies, older adults over 60, pregnant women.

**Energy Services Inc, Chris Vitrano**— Tammy Grauer is now working with the state department. Currently taking applications; although there are no energy funds available, there are crisis funds available. Please refer if you know someone who needs assistance.

**UW-Extension, Jeanne Weed**— Diane Turner has been doing excellent work putting all of the supplies together for our Community Food Challenge on August 25<sup>th</sup>.

**ADRC, Mike Glasgow**—ADRC has 50-60 farmers market vouchers left. If your agency works with eligible seniors (low income, 60+) and would like ADRC staff to visit to distribute them, please let ADRC know. Vouchers are good until October 31<sup>st</sup>. If you or someone you know would like to be a volunteer driver, please let the ADRC know. Drivers are reimbursed for mileage and gain experience working with older adults.

**Healing Hearts of Waukesha County, Chris Beck**—Healing Hearts of Waukesha County offers grief support for families and children 4-18. The 12-week fall session will begin September 28<sup>th</sup>, offered every Monday 5:30-7:30. Families enjoy a meal together before a peer-to-peer group session. Kids are divided into peer groups by age, adults by cause of loss.

**Waukesha County Independent Living Program, Michelle Montez**—Foster Care Act allows counties to receive funding to help youth age out of foster care successfully, providing assistance with needs such as education, life skills, access to resources (bus passes, prepaid cell phone cards, etc). Beginning in January 2016, the state program will reorganize into 6 regions rather than individual counties. Our region will consist of 15 counties.

**Next Meeting: August 25, 2015, 9 am**

**Topic: Community Food Challenge (in place of regularly scheduled Coalition Meeting)**